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9 August 1955

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES:

FROM :

SUBJECT:

Steering Committee Meeting

DOC	41	REV DATE	5 MAY 1955	BY	08373
ORIG COMP	033	OPI	56	TYPE	02
CRIS CLASS	5	PAGES	3	REV CLASS	S
JUST	22	NEXT REV	2010	AUTH:	HR 10-2

1. At 1000 27 July 1955, a meeting of the joint USAF-CIA Steering Committee was held in Alcott Hall. Personnel present were as follows:

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Mr. E. R. McGeehin	WADC
Mr. C. A. Draper	SAC
CWO J. R. Hanson	SAC
Col. Conkle	ANEC
Major Becker	AFHQ

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2. The first undertaking of the group was the formulation of an agenda. The Agenda consisted of five items as follows; (1) Review of past history, (2) Feasibility of additional field tests, (3) Joint vs separate program to meet agency requirements, (4) Authorization to utilize the techniques for other purposes, (5) Plans for technical coordination in the future.

3. The previous meeting of the committee reviewed the test results in detail and a copy of the field tests conducted by CIA was given to SAC. It had been resolved that SAC would add their previous test results to this copy and the combined reports would be edited and reprinted as a single report. SAC reported that they had not done this since their test report contained, primarily, difficulties encountered and was in sharp contrast with the Agency report. It was felt, however, that something would be gained if the two reports were combined, since the information could prevent steps from being re-taken at a later date. SAC agreed to this idea.

4. On the subject of additional field tests, it was stated that while we, CIA, are through with the tests, SAC is not. The Ad Hoc report on the proposed SAC tests at Thule, Greenland and Nielson, Alaska was read to the group informing them of our decision. Since the Ad Hoc report stated that we, CIA, would be agreeable to Nielson, Alaska as a test site and did not favor Thule,

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it was necessary to explain in more detail, the reasons behind the choice of Nielsen. Along with the discussion, the propagation curves used in the determination of the test operating site were given to the SAC-WHAF representatives so that they would be available for reference. The WHAF representative stated that they have been running simulated tests on other types of communication devices, so as not to use the actual equipment on the tests. This type of test seems to work out satisfactorily and it was suggested that a simulation test could be used on [] equipment. Since Nielsen is agreeable for actual [] equipment tests it was suggested that perhaps simulated tests at Nielsen and Thule with a [] test at Nielsen would be a possible solution. It was felt that using the information on both the simulated test and the [] test from Nielsen as control data, that extrapolation would allow reasonable accuracy in predicting the performance of [] from Thule. In any event, WHAF/SAC are going to test the paths using simulation tests on both air/ground and ground/ground circuits in the near future.

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5. Sterilized copies of our, CIA's, requirements for functional characteristics desired in [] were given to the group. In addition, SAC presented each member of the committee with their requirements for the []. The [] is their name for [] equipment. WHAF and SAC will get together and see if the two sets of requirements can be combined effectively. The main points which will decide whether or not we go our separate ways, are the size and weight which can be obtained in a re-design. SAC still has very exacting requirements for size and weight and even though our functional characteristics might satisfy their requirements, if the size and weight limits can not be met, the equipment will be of little use to them. As soon as a decision is reached by the Air Force technical personnel, we will be notified of their findings. The ANEC representation told the group that

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6. ANEC wished to clarify their position on point four of the agenda with regard to utilization of some of the system techniques in other equipments. Actually, their position is still valid and within the existing agreement.

7. On planning for technical coordination in the future, it was decided that liaison would continue on all levels; the Ad Hoc technical level, the Steering Committee would remain intact, and the policy level coordination would continue as before. The [] Steering Committee would retain its name and membership and will be expanded to include other equipment and systems that the [] should it become desirable.

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8. The Air Force personnel wanted to talk about the base station equipment [redacted] with particular regard to [redacted] and made an inference [redacted] however, they did not obtain the information they were fishing for from the Agency representatives at the meeting.

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